

prosecution in the present application. In addition, applicants have amended Claims 74 to 76 to depend from Claim 72 which defines a human LIPG polypeptide. These amendments have been made pursuant to the Examiner's statement on page 6 of the Requirement that these claims may be rejoined with the Group VIII claims provided that they are amended to recite a human polypeptide.

Applicants traverse the Examiner's Requirement with respect to: (A) the Group VIII claims and Claim 76 of the Group XII claims¹ (drawn to a composition comprising LIPG polypeptide of SEQ ID NO.:10); and (B) the Group VIII claims with the respect to both Claim 74 of the Group X claims (drawn to a composition comprising LIPG polypeptide of SEQ ID NO.:6) and Claim 75 of the Group XI claims (drawn to a composition comprising LIPG polypeptide of SEQ ID NO.:8). Each of these traversals is discussed individually below.

With respect to the Group VIII claims and Claim 76 of Group XII, applicants note that Claim 76 defines a composition comprising a human LIPG polypeptide of SEQ ID NO.:10. The human amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO.:10 is a subsequence of all human LIPG polypeptides (see page 35, lines 24 to 28, page 36, lines 1 to 7, and page 83, lines 8 to 10, of the application). As stated by the Examiner at page 6 of the Requirement, claims drawn to a subsequence of a larger sequence may be rejoined with claims drawn to the larger sequence. Accordingly, applicants request that the Claim 76 be rejoined with the Group VIII claims.

With respect to the Group VIII claims and Claim 74 of the Group X claims (drawn to a composition comprising a human LIPG polypeptide of SEQ ID NO.:6), and Claim 75 of the Group XI claims drawn to a composition comprising a human LIPG polypeptide of SEQ ID NO.:8.), applicants note that polypeptides of SEQ ID

¹ The reference in the Requirement to Claim 74 of the Group XII claims appears to be a typographical error and applicants assume that Claim 76 was intended to be included in the Group XII claims.

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NOS: 6 and 8 of Claims 74 and 75 respectively are both forms of the human LIPG polypeptide (see page 25, lines 27 to 29, page 26, lines 1 to 5, page 29, lines 23 to 28, page 35, lines 24 to 28, and page 36, lines 1 to 7 of the application). All Group VIII claims are drawn to a composition comprising human LIPG polypeptide. The compositions of Claims 74 and 75 are encompassed, therefore, within the scope of the composition of Claim 72 (included in Group VIII), from which they are dependent. It is asserted respectfully that Claims 74 and 75 should be rejoined, therefore, with Claim 72 in the Group VIII claims.

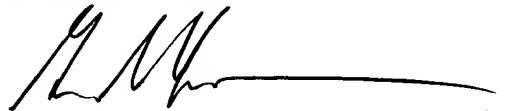
Given the above, applicants request that Claims 74 to 76 be rejoined with the Group VIII claims.

In addition, applicants note that the Requirement does not address pending Claim 1 which has not been withdrawn from prosecution.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, an early and favorable Action is requested respectfully.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

74. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 72 [20] wherein said LIPG polypeptide is that set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6 or a fragment or a variant of said SEQ ID NO: 6.
75. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 72 [20] wherein said LIPG polypeptide is that set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8 or a fragment or a variant of said SEQ ID NO: 8.
76. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 72 [20] wherein said LIPG polypeptide is that set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or a fragment or a variant of said SEQ ID NO: 10.